

## CROWN LANDS DEPARTMENT.

*Disposal of Lands.*

Of the Crown lands surveyed and open for settlement, certain townships are known as free grant lands; in other townships the settler is charged 50c. per acre.

Number of free grant townships.....	170
" sale townships.....	46
" persons located (Free Grants) since 1872	28,101
" acres sold and located under the Free Grants Act since 1872.....	3,875,011
" acres mining lands sold or leased since 1872.....	976,385
Total.....	4,851,396

*Population of Free Grant Districts.*

The population of the new northern districts has increased with remarkable rapidity under this system of settlement, as is shown by the following table (based on electoral divisions) taken from the Dominion census:—

	1871.	1901.	Increase.
Muskoka and Parry Sound....	6,919	45,356	38,437
Nipissing .....	1,791	36,552	34,761
Algoma .....	7,018	63,669	56,651
Total .....	15,728	145,577	129,849

An increase of 827 per cent.

Another evidence of growth in population is to be found in the towns and villages in the newer districts, some of which have come into existence since the last Dominion census was taken:

Towns and villages.	Population, Dominion Census, 1901.	Towns and villages.	Population, Dominion Census, 1901.
Gravenhurst .....	2147	Sudbury .....	2027
Bracebridge .....	2479	Thessalon.....	1205
Huntsville .....	2152	Sault Ste. Marie.....	7169
Parry Sound .....	2884	Port Arthur.....	3214
North Bay.....	2531	Fort William .....	3633
Sturgeon Falls.....	1418	Rat Portage.....	5202

*Increase of Post Offices in New Ontario.*

The rapid increase in the number of post offices in New Ontario, viz. over 100 per cent in 20 years, is a further indication of the spread of population.

**BUILD UP ONTARIO**